Bangalore as World Class Digital City

2119. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Karnataka has taken up 'Unwire Bangalore' project to make Bangalore a World Class Digital City;

(b) the salient features of the project and whether it will be taken up under public private partnership or solely by Government;

(c) whether the project enables Bangaloreans to enjoy broadband in their homes, offices, schools and public places; and

(d) whether the Department of Information Technology will integrate applications and database in a cost effective manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The project envisages an ubiquitous city-wise infrastructure creating an integrated fully seamless wireless digital community at Bangalore. This will be a private sector venture and the role of the State Government would be that of a facilitator only.

(d) This project is designed by the State Government and the Department of Information Technology, Government of India has no role to play.

Vacancies in IT sector due to brain drain

2120. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several posts in the information technology sector are lying vacant in our country as the experts having high technical qualifications are migrating to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of loss caused by this brain drain; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Indian Software companies and technical manpower undertake onsite projects and jobs for the overseas companies in industralised and developing countries to meet requirements of the clients and execute specific projects. However, as per estimates of National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM), in the last three years, nearly 20,000 IT professionals having returned back to India due to growing opportunities in this sector.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Revised norms for quality of service

†2121. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 143 given in Rajya Sabha on 24th November, 2005 and state:

(a) the details of the revised norms of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India regarding the quality of service *vide* their regulation issued on the 8th July, 2005;

(b) the places where the quality of service has been noticed to be below the norms relating to quality of the services prescribed by TRAI;

(c) whether the SMSs are not received by consumers on time especially during the season of festivals due to shortage of Base Station Tower though they are charged for the same; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to control the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), through the Quality of Service (QoS) Regulation of July, 2005, has prescribed some new parameters for monitoring of the Basic and Mobile network conditions. The list of additional QoS parameters along with their benchmarks for Basic and Mobile service is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.